

ART. XXVI.—*Description of a New Species of Argiope, from Fiji.*

By A. T. URQUHART.

[Read before the Auckland Institute, 14th October, 1889.]

Fam. EPEIRIDÆ.

Gen. **Argiope**, Sav. et Aud.*Argiope leuco-picta*, sp. nov.

*Female*.—Ceph.-th., long, 8; broad, 7; facial index, 2·5. Abd., long, 14; broad, 9. Legs, 1, 2, 4, 3 = 36, 33, 30, 21 mm.

*Cephalothorax* olive-brown, tinted with slate-colour, margined by an interrupted yellowish band; ocular area reddish-brown; fairly clothed with silky, white, adpressed hairs; length equals the tibial joint of a leg of 1st pair; pars cephalica somewhat aplanate, sides moderately rounded, lateral index 1·8mm.; eye-eminence projects forwards; pars thoracica depressedly convex, sides well rounded; fovea somewhat circular, large and moderately deep; radial and caput striæ well defined; profile-contour rises rather abruptly from thoracic junction, dips into median fovea, slopes forwards across the cephalic part with a slight curve; depth of *clypeus* equals diameter and a half of a fore-central eye.

*Eyes* on small black rings; posterior row slightly recurved; median pair separated by an interval exceeding their diameter and one-half, about twice that distance from fore-centrals, perceptibly more than their space from lateral eyes of same row; anterior row strongly recurved, centrals perceptibly larger than hind pair, placed slightly nearer to one another; their space from lateral eyes, which are rather smaller than posterior centrals, posited obliquely on a common tubercle, three-fourths their breadth from one another.

*Legs* yellowish olive-brown, femora clouded and irregularly annulated with a greenish dark chocolate-brown; patellæ suffused with a dark tinge; tibiæ and metatarsi have three broad, not well-defined, annuli of the normal colour; legs strong, each femur is equal in length to the patella and tibia, and the two latter articles equal the metatarsus and tarsus; superior tarsal claws—1st pair rather coarse, 6 teeth increasing in length and strength, 3 basal close; free end bent, enlarged near base; inferior claw stronger than superior, rather sharply bent, apex curved outwards; first tooth long.

*Palpi* brownish-yellow, broken brown annuli; length 9·5; humeral joint in length is equal to the cubital and radial

together; two latter articles equal to digital joint; armature sparse fine hairs, numerous bristles, especially on penultimate and terminal joints; palpal claw 8 teeth, 2 basal small, 6 open teeth; free end bent forwards, base enlarged.

*Falces* brownish-yellow, base suffused with olive-green, apex light-brown; vertical, somewhat conical, project at base in front; length 3mm., breadth exceeds one-half length.

*Maxillæ* dark chocolate-brown, apices yellowish on inner side; spathulate, rather longer than broad, directed towards each other.

*Labium* dark chocolate-brown, yellowish apex; rather broader than long, roundly pointed, moderately everted.

*Sternum* dark chocolate-brown; central mark yellowish, undulating, acuminate; cordate; eminences opposite coxæ well developed.

*Abdomen* oviform, about as deep as broad, slightly convex above, projects forwards and upwards over base of cephalothorax; displays a tubercular eminence in front; from the somewhat pointed prominence at posterior end the abdomen dips abruptly inwards to spinners; lateral margins corrugated; humeral processes moderately developed, rounded, directed upwards and outwards, placed rather close together and somewhat forward; the integument, with the exception of a large stone-coloured somewhat circular patch on fore-part, extending backwards to base of humeral processes, has a soft velvety appearance, is of a rich-brown colour, clouded with a deeper hue (appears nearly black to the unaided eye); the darker portions sparsely clothed with erect black hairs, and the stone-coloured pattern with silky, white, adpressed hairs; dorsal field elongate-oval, moderately constricted in centre, defined by a series of spots; basal half enclosed by six spots; anterior pair rather large, lunulate, partially encircle humeral processes on outer side; four hind spots much smaller, somewhat similar in form; posterior half bordered by more or less connected dots; on fore-half is a plier-shaped figure, formed by two short parallel lines extending from anterior pair of impressed spots to stone-coloured area, between them is a pale spot; diverging backwards from near the latter are two lines thickening and curving inwardly above the second pair of impressed spots; six dots occur between the latter spot and posterior end of the oval field, four form a quadrilateral figure at the constriction, two midway between them and posterior end of dorsal field; on lateral margins are two interrupted lines, following the contour of the median area—upper defined by a series of somewhat elongated dots, second row chiefly formed by three moderately-curved marks; few interrupted oblique lines converge towards spinners; sides and ventral surface olive-green tinge; shield bordered by a broken, undulating, stone-coloured

line; eight dots form a double row in centre. *Corpus vulvæ* reddish-brown, yellow spot at either end; more than twice as broad as long; centrally prolonged into a short, obtuse projection; lateral margins curve inwardly, terminate in somewhat oval shallow concavities; a moderately broad septum intersects two shallow pyriform foveæ.

This handsome species, which is, as far as I am able to ascertain, new to science, was kindly communicated to me by P. Goyen, Esq., of Dunedin.

ART. XXVII.—On Two Species of *Aranea* new to Science, from the Jenolan Caves, New South Wales.

By A. T. URQUHART.

[Read before the Auckland Institute, 11th November, 1889.]

Plate XVI.

Fam. THERIDIIDÆ.

Gen. *Linyphia*, Latr.

*Linyphia weburdi*, sp. nov. Plate XVI., fig. 2.

*Female*.—Ceph.-th., long, 1. Abd., long, 1·2. Legs, 1, 4-2, 3.

*Cephalothorax* fulvous, radii faint-black; few black bristle-like hairs; areolate; oval, lateral constriction at caput slight; pars cephalica convex, somewhat squarely truncated; pars thoracica convex, fovea large, oval; striæ faint; profile-contour slopes backwards, with a slight double arch, at a moderate angle, to thoracic junction; *clypeus* convex, directed forwards, depth exceeds one-half facial space.

*Eyes* pearl-grey, posited on dark rings; of tolerable and nearly equal size, except the fore-centrals, which are much the smallest of the eight; posterior row procurved, median pair perceptibly the largest, separated from each other by an interval visibly exceeding an eye's diameter; more than that space from laterals of same row; anterior row slightly recurved; centrals placed about their diameter apart; separated from side-eyes by an interval scarcely equalling their space; laterals seated obliquely, about their radius from one another, on moderate tubercular eminences.

*Legs* yellowish-amber colour; long, slender, of nearly equal length; first pair, 5mm.; hairs black, fine; bristles sparse; femoral joints of two first pairs armed with spines; patellæ have one long spine; strongish long spines on tibiæ; single spine on metatarsi.